Meeting of Chief Executives of BIMSTEC Railways

2993. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railway held first meeting of the Chief Executives of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Railways in September, 2004; and

(b) if so, what follow-up action have, so far, been taken to promote regional co-operation among the BIMSTEC countries in the matter of transportation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The first meeting of Chief Executive Officers of Railways of BIMSTEC nations was held in September, 2004. During the meeting Indian Railways had offered to train the railway personnel of BIMSTEC nations free of cost. The offer was subsequently extended to Mekong-Ganga Cooperation countries during the 2nd meeting of Chief Executive Officers of Railways of BIMSTEC nations in Yangon in 2005. As a follow-up action, Indian Railways, have started free training to Railway personnel of member countries.

Spending by Railways during Eleventh Plan

2994. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways set to spend Rs. 500,000/- crores during the Eleventh Plan;

(b) if so, how far this Plan shall improve the working of the Railway Department particularly theft cases and railway accidents during the Eleventh Plan; and

(c) how this amount shall be managed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) The 11th Plan has not been finalized.